

Claims

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1 1. A splitter apparatus comprising:

2 a first semi-circular member having first and
3 second mating surfaces;

4 a second semi-circular member having first
5 and second mating surfaces complimentary to the opposed
6 first and second mating surfaces of the first member;

7 wherein the first member is engageable with
8 the second member to form on engagement a cylindrical
9 body;

10 a first rectangular land having a plurality
11 of sidewall surfaces projecting from one of the first
12 or second mating surfaces of the first member wherein
13 the corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces
14 of the first rectangular land are radiused;

15 a first rectangular recess having a plurality
16 of sidewall surfaces projecting into one of the first
17 or second mating surfaces of the second member;

18 wherein the first rectangular recess is
19 interengageable with the first rectangular land to
20 provide axial and radial alignment of the first member
21 with the second member.

1 2. The splitter apparatus of claim 1 wherein the
2 corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
3 first rectangular recess are radiused.

1 3. The splitter apparatus of claim 2 wherein the
2 radius of each corner formed between adjacent sidewall
3 surfaces of the first rectangular recess is less than the
4 radius of the corresponding corner formed between adjacent

5 sidewall surfaces of the first rectangular land.

1 4. The slitter apparatus of claim 1 wherein the
2 corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
3 first rectangular recess are chamfered.

1 5. The slitter apparatus of claim 1 further
2 comprising:

3 a second rectangular land having a plurality of
4 sidewall surfaces projecting from the other of the first or
5 second mating surfaces of the first member wherein the
6 corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the
7 second rectangular land are radiused;

8 a second rectangular recess having a plurality of
9 sidewall surfaces projecting into the other of the first or
10 second mating surfaces of the second member;

11 wherein the second rectangular recess is
12 interengageable with the second rectangular land to provide
13 axial and radial alignment of the first member with the
14 second member.

1 6. The slitter apparatus of claim 5 wherein the
2 first rectangular land is interengageable with the first
3 rectangular recess, and further wherein the first
4 rectangular land is not interengageable with the second
5 rectangular recess, whereby the first and second semi-
6 circular members may be connected together only in one way
7 to form the cylindrical body.

1 7. The slitter apparatus of claim 1 further
2 comprising:

3 a second rectangular land having a plurality of
4 sidewall surfaces projecting from the other of the first or
5 second mating surfaces of the second member wherein the
6 corners formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the

second rectangular land are radiused;

a second rectangular recess having a plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting into the other of the first or second mating surfaces of the first member;

wherein the second rectangular recess is interengageable with the second rectangular land to provide axial and radial alignment of the first member with the second member.

8. The slitter apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first rectangular land is centrally disposed inward from the outer edges of the mating surface from which it projects and further wherein the first rectangular recess is centrally disposed inward from the outer edges of the mating surface into which it projects such that upon engagement of the first member with the second member, the first rectangular land and the first rectangular recess are completely enclosed inside of the cylindrical body.

9. The slitter apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first land is integral with the mating surface from which it projects.

10. A slitter apparatus comprising:

a first semi-circular member having a first mating surface;

a second semi-circular member having a second mating surface engageable with the first mating surface to form a cylindrical body;

a rectangular land projecting from the first mating surface of the first semi-circular member wherein the land includes no more than one planar surface substantially parallel to the first mating surface; and

a rectangular recess protruding into the

13 second mating surface of the second semi-circular
14 member wherein the recess includes no more than one
15 planar surface substantially parallel to the second
16 mating surface and further wherein engagement of the
17 land with the recess provides both axial and radial
18 alignment of the first semi-circular member with the
19 second semi-circular member.

1 11. The slitter apparatus of claim 10 wherein the
2 land includes a plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting
3 from the first mating surface wherein the corners formed
4 between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular land
5 are chamfered.

1 12. The slitter apparatus of claim 11 wherein the
2 recess includes a plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting
3 into the second mating surface wherein the corners formed
4 between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular recess
5 are chamfered.

1 13. The slitter apparatus of claim 12 wherein the
2 length of the chamfer on each corner formed between adjacent
3 sidewall surfaces of the rectangular recess is less than the
4 length of the chamfer on the corresponding corner formed
5 between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular land.

1 14. The slitter apparatus of claim 10 wherein the
2 land includes a plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting
3 from the first mating surface wherein the corners formed
4 between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular land
5 are radiused.

1 15. The slitter apparatus of claim 14 wherein the
2 recess includes a plurality of sidewall surfaces projecting
3 into the second mating surface wherein the corners formed

between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular recess are radiused.

16. The slitter apparatus of claim 15 wherein the radius of each corner formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular recess is less than the radius of the corresponding corner formed between adjacent sidewall surfaces of the rectangular land.

17. The slitter apparatus of claim 10 wherein the rectangular land is centrally disposed on the first mating surface and the rectangular recess is centrally disposed in the second mating surface.

18. The slitter apparatus of claim 10 wherein rectangular land is integral with the first mating surface.

19. A slitter apparatus comprising:
a first semi-circular member having a first mating surface;
a second semi-circular member having a second mating surface engageable with the first mating surface to form a cylindrical body;
a land projecting from the first mating surface wherein the land is centrally disposed inward from the outer edges of the first mating surface such that upon engagement of the first semi-circular member with the second semi-circular member, the land is hidden inside of the cylindrical body;
a recess projecting into the second mating surface wherein the recess is centrally disposed inward from the outer edges of the second mating surface such that upon engagement of the first semi-circular member with the second semi-circular member, the recess is hidden inside of the cylindrical body;

19 wherein the land includes a first pair of
20 planar alignment surfaces;

21 wherein the recess includes a second pair of
22 planar alignment surfaces complimentary to the first
23 pair of planar alignment surfaces wherein contact of
24 the first pair of planar alignment surfaces with the
25 second pair of planar alignment surfaces when the land
26 is received in the recess provides axial alignment of
27 the first semi-circular member with the second semi-
28 circular member;

29 wherein the land includes a third pair of
30 planar alignment surfaces; and

31 wherein the recess includes a fourth pair of
32 planar alignment surfaces complimentary to the third
33 pair of planar alignment surfaces wherein contact of
34 the third pair of planar alignment surfaces with the
35 fourth pair of planar alignment surfaces when the land
36 is received in the recess provides radial alignment of
37 the first semi-circular member with the second semi-
38 circular member.